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Applicant:	Puranam U. SARMA et al.	Conf.:	5257
Appl. No.:	09/871,961	Group:	1631
Filed:	June 4, 2001	Examiner:	L. Clow
For:	NOVEL POLYPEPTIDES USEFUL FOR DIAGNOSIS OF ASPERGILLUS FUMIGATUS AND A PROCESS OF PREPARING THE SAME		

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-34. (**Canceled**)

35. (**Currently Amended**) A method for diagnosing aspergillosis, comprising steps of:

(a) incubating a body fluid sample from a patient with an ELISA plate having at least one peptide bound thereto;

(b) removing the body fluid sample from the ELISA plate;

(c) incubating the ELISA plate with anti-human IgG/IgE to form peptide-IgG/IgE complexes;

(d) removing IgG/IgE not bound in a complex;

(e) quantitating an amount of peptide-IgG/IgE complexes; and

(f) diagnosing aspergillosis based on the amount of peptide-IgG/IgE complexes,

wherein the at least one peptide is a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence ~~comprising~~ of one of SEQ ID NOS: 1-6.

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Art Unit 1631
PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS

48. (**Currently Amended**) A method for the diagnosis of aspergillosis using at least one peptide ~~containing~~ comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOS: 1-6, said method comprising steps of:

(a) collecting a body fluid sample containing antibodies specific to *Aspergillus fumigatus* (Af-antibodies) from a patient and separating a fluid containing Af-antibodies from any cells present in the fluid;

(b) incubating the fluid containing Af-antibodies obtained in step a with at least one peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOS: 1-6;

(c) separating from the resultant incubation mixture residual Af-specific antibodies that do not bind to the at least one peptide in step (b) by centrifugation;

(d) incubating the residual Af-specific antibodies obtained in step (c) with a mixture of allergens and/or antigens of *Aspergillus fumigatus* coated on a polystyrene ELISA plate to bind antibodies to the ELISA plate;

(e) washing unbound antibodies from the ELISA plates with an appropriate buffer;

(f) incubating the washed plates from step e with anti-human IgG/IgE conjugated with an enzyme to obtain immobilized

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enzyme;

(g) washing unbound enzyme from the ELISA plates with an appropriate buffer;

(h) adding a soluble substrate for the enzyme; and

(i) measuring the absorbance values of the wells of ELISA plates in an ELISA reader, wherein the acuteness of aspergillosis is inversely related to the absorbance value.

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